

Myers, A J William

re Chair of Religious Education

Oct. 1915
1915

THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
FIRST TENTATIVE PLAN FOR 1916 CONVENTION

585

"FAMILY, CHURCH AND STATE IN EDUCATION"

Statement of theme: "The Coordination of the family, the church and the State in education".

Program to be prepared by

(1) The Executive Committee of the Council, with the

~~President~~ President and General Secretary of the Ass'n.

(2) Consulting with an Advisory Committee.

Proposed topics for convention

A. INVESTIGATIONS AND STUDIES

I. Recent Experiments in Correlation (of Religious Instruction with public education)

Gary

Colorado

North Dakota

Iowa

Indiana

Lakewood, O.

Austin, Texas.

II. Special Provision for Week Day Religious Instruction

(1) Lutheran parochial schools.

(2) Catholic parochial schools.

(3) Jewish - a. General parochial schools

b. The Kehillah

(4) Daily vacation Bible Schools

(5) Religious Day Schools

III. Religious Exercises in Public Schools

An investigation as to methods, materials used, purpose in mind, and effects or values:

For Ontario, Can.

For New York

In Southern States

For Texas and Oklahoma

Villages

IV. Present Legal Status

- (1) New and proposed legislation as to the relations of religious education to public schools.
- (2) Laws respecting moral instruction.

V. The Family and the Schools

- (1) Cooperation between parents and public schools, especially as to Parent-Teacher Associations.
- (2) Family and Church School. A complete survey of parents classes in churches.

(Get the facts, statistics of what is being done, methods and results including number of classes, enrollment and courses in use.)

VI. The Attitude of the Religious Communions Concerning the Relations of Family, Church and State in Education.

(The purpose is to secure a digest of the official statements of religious bodies concerning the relations of family, church and state in education. This to include Catholic, Hebrew, Baptist, Disciples, Congregationalist, Episcopal, Lutheran, Methodist and Presbyterian.)

VII. Moral Training and Instruction in Schools.

1. A Survey of Progress of Moral Conditions in
 - (a) Elementary Schools since 1911
 - (b) Development of Moral Instruction and Training in High Schools since 1911
2. Moral Conditions in High Schools.

October 19th, 1915

Rev. A. J. Wm. Myers,
10 Glen Road,
Toronto.

Dear Dr. Myers:

It seems to me that if the chair of Religious Education were to be established by the joint action of the Theological Colleges of Toronto it should be inaugurated within Toronto. Our R. E. A deals with the whole Dominion and I do not think that we ought to inaugurate what would really be a local affair for the city colleges. The scheme, however, is a good one, and I think it should be taken up with Dr. Fraser and Mr. Robertson along with the others whom you mention. Would it not be well to speak to Robertson about the matter? I assume that the difficulty now in Knox College is that they have such a financial burden that they will find it hard to add to that burden at present. I shall be glad to speak to Principal Gandier about the matter some time soon.

Yours sincerely,

President.

December 2nd, 1915

Dr. A. J. Wm. Myers,
10 Glen Road,
Toronto.

Dear Dr. Myers:

I have spoken to Principal Gandier on the subject of your letter, with regard to the possibility of establishing an interdenominational chair of Religious Education. He suggested that the matter might be taken up by the colleges and I rather think that he himself may take the initiative. It is really a matter that should be discussed and settled by the colleges themselves. We as a Society have not funds to establish such a position for the joint service of the colleges nor if we did so could it be confined to Toronto, but he himself suggested that by using the intercollegiate, and even university advantages it might be possible with a little additional expense on the part of the colleges to provide a very good department in this subject. To my mind it seems quite feasible. I hope that he himself may take some action in the matter.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

